

Combined Sewer Overflow

During heavy rains, storm water can enter the municipal sewer system which can cause the system to surcharge and overflow; this is known as a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO). The wastewater collection system wasn't designed to handle large amounts of water accumulated during heavy rain. A CSO diversion system was put in place to direct these high storm water flows to Clemson's Holding Pond. The pond discharges through a permitted outfall and tide gates to the Squamscott River.

The town has been working to eliminate CSOs from the wastewater collection system for the last 20 years through extensive separation projects. However, CSO events still occur during heavy rains. There are two ways that stormwater can enter the wastewater system:

Infiltration and Inflow (I & I).

- Infiltration results from surface water or groundwater seepage into the sewer system through defective pipe joints, cracked, broken, or collapsed sections of pipe and manhole walls.
- Inflow is extraneous water which enters the wastewater system from other sources including private catch basins, sump pumps, roof drains, and any other connection of storm water to the wastewater system.

Sump pumps, roof drains, and other storm water connections to the sewer system significantly contribute to overflows. The town must reduce and eventually eliminate overflows to Clemson Pond. Each overflow event must be reported to the appropriate regulatory agencies. In some cases, shellfish beds in the Great Bay are closed for harvesting. For more information on the shellfish program, visit The [New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services](#).

- Letters have been sent to residents and businesses that were identified in earlier studies as potential sources of storm water connections to the sanitary sewer. DPW has been and will be working closely with property owners to determine if there is a storm water connection, and identify possible solutions. [Click here for more information regarding illegal sump pump hook-ups](#).
- Certain areas in town were identified as potential sources of inflow from sump pumps. DPW will inspect these areas and notify property owners of possible storm water connections. The DPW will work with property owners to identify solutions.

The Sewer Department is also investigating infiltration. Televising equipment will be used to examine pipes and manholes in the cross country lines and in the older sections of town, areas that are prone to infiltration.

Notice of Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) 2014

Tuesday, March 31, 2014 - 1.05" of rain and snow melt: Spring Street CSO 1,932,770 gallons total from 8:35 am - 8:50 pm. Water Street CSO 76,410 gallons total from 2:10 pm - 4:15 pm. Total of both sites: 2,009,180 gallons.

Monday, March 30, 2014 - 1.87" of rain and snow melt: Water Street cso 190,000 gallons total from 6:35 am - 11:40 am. Spring Street cso 1,660,000 gallons total from 7:18 am - 4:48 pm. Total of both sites: 1,850,000 gallons.

Notice of Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) 2011

Monday, March 7, 2011 - 1.38" of rain: Water Street CSO 377,108 gallons from 3:05AM - 2:25PM. Spring Street CSO 2,227,115 gallons from 3:05AM - 2:25PM. Total of both sites: 2,604,223 gallons.

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Friday, March 11, 2011 - 0.93" of rain: Water Street CSO 71,374 gallons from 12:30PM - 7:10PM. Spring Street CSO: 547,283 gallons from 12:35PM - 7:10PM. Total of both sites: 618,657 gallons.

Friday, August 19, 2011 CSO Report

Notice of Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) & Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO) 2010

January 25, 2010 95,000 gallons 1" rain and melting snow pack
February 24 and 25, 2010 637,000 gallons 3.1" rain and melting snow pack

Total rain of event from February 24, 2010 thru March 1, 2010 = 6.19 inches of rain. Spring Street Combined Sewer Overflow total = 2,504,000 gallons. Water Street = 3,059,000 gallons. All reported by Scott Butler, Senior Wastewater Operator.

March 14 thru March 18, 2010 = over 7 inches of rain. Spring Street Combined Sewer Overflow total = 13,835,000 gallons. Water Street = 6,361,000 gallons.

March 23 thru March 25, 2010 = 2.5 inches of rain. Spring Street Combined Sewer Overflow total = 2,706,000 gallons. Water Street = 509,000 gallons. DES Shellfish Program, EPA-Region 1 and NHDES were all notified.

March 29 to April 3, 2010 Spring Street Combined Sewer Overflow total = 8,296,000 gallons. March 29 to April 1, 2010 Water Street Combined Sewer Overflow total = 2,176,000 gallons. Six Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO) at collection system manholes totaled 268,000 gallons.

August 4, 2010 - Water Street - 3,000 gallons - no rain
August 5, 2010 - Spring Street - 74,000 gallons - 1.61" of rain

August 25, 2010 - Water Street - 5,000 gallons - from 12:20PM/1:00PM
August 25, 2010 - Spring Street - 62,000 gallons - from 11:50AM/1:45PM
Rainfall 2.91"

Previous Years:

Notice of Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO): •November 9, 2006 - 36,000 gallons 1.49" rain
•November 15, 2006 - 103,000 gallons 1.46" rain
•March 2, 2007 - 39,000 gallons 1.97" rain
•April 16-20, 2007 - 18,497,000 gallons, 5"rain
•February 13, 2008 - 52,000 gallons 2" rain and associated snowmelt
•June 23, 2008 - 5,000 gallons 2.02" rain
•July 24, 2008 - 215,000 gallons 3.69" rain
•September 6 & 7, 2008 - 371,000 gallons 4.72" rain (Tropical Storm Hanna)
•April 6, 2009 - 16,000 gallons 1.1" rain

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